

SELECTMEN'S MEETING
Town of Brownfield
March 9, 2010

Selectmen Present: Carol Brooks, Erik Walker & Cindy Willets

Others Present: Wanda Bartlett, Frank & Alvina Day, Michelle Day, Cindy Walker, Richard Perreault and Chris Wells

Carol and Erik opened the workshop portion of the meeting at 5:20 P.M. Carol then called the regular meeting to order at 6:05 P.M. Payroll and A/P warrants were reviewed and approved.

Frank reported that snow arrived on Saturday the 27th and continued into Sunday with the PW Department busy plowing and sanding. The banks were set back on Monday. Vehicle maintenance was performed on Tuesday and Frank took care of paperwork. On Wednesday, frost heaves were filled and more vehicle maintenance was done. Jeff and Ernie took Thursday off to keep their hours down. Frank spent Thursday getting parts for one of the vehicles and working on his budget. The Selectmen were asked when they would like to get together to go over the PW budget and it was determined that next Tuesday's Selectmen's Meeting would be a good time since there was not much on the agenda.

Frank then gave the Selectmen a bill from CMC Construction regarding repairs done to a screen that belonged to the Town that had been loaned to CMC Construction several years ago. After some discussion, the Selectmen instructed Julie to write a letter denying payment of this bill. No authorization was ever given by a Town Representative to make these repairs and upgrades, and the Town never charged a rental fee for usage of the screen.

A question was raised about the tree that had fallen across Center Conway Road that now was split in half on both sides of the road. Frank will talk to Fryeburg's DOT office to see if they will clean it up.

Chief Perreault reported a quiet week. The Fire Department is gearing up for a potentially busy grass and brush fire season with the snow rapidly melting. The Maine Forest Service is warning everyone to be prepared.

Wanda next discussed with the Selectmen the loan for the fire truck and garage and the interest payment that comes due in April in the amount of \$11,777.84 payable to Key Bank. It is hoped that this interest payment can be done in at least two installments. Income from Revenue Sharing is expected in the amount of \$72,443.51. Several banks are bartering for the Town's business.

After some discussion, the Selectmen implemented a policy on the reimbursement for travel expense. Erik made a motion that was seconded by Carol that when three or

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more employees, board members or town officials travel to the same location on Town business, mileage will not be reimbursed if they use their own vehicles. When they use the Town's van, they will be reimbursed for the actual cost of fuel. All were in favor.

Erik made a motion that was seconded by Carol to adjourn at 7:35 P.M. All were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie A. Watkins
Town Administrator

SELECTMEN'S MEETING
Town of Brownfield
February 2, 2010

Selectmen Present: Erik Walker & Cindy Willets

Others Present: Matt Coen, Frank Day, Michelle Day, Richard Norcross,
Richard Perreault & Linda Pestilli

The business portion of the meeting was called to order at 6:05 P.M. Mrs. Brooks was not in attendance.

Frank reported that the PW Department started working last Sunday by sanding when it started to rain and the roads became slippery. The same problem that occurred last year at the intersection of Porter Road and Sam Brown Hill Road became an issue again with ice jams in the brook. There was no property damage but water did run over the road. Most of Monday was spent sanding. Trash was picked up on Tuesday, some vehicle maintenance was performed and the roads were checked. The ice was cleared out again from the brook on Porter Road. The big ice chunks are all gone now but it does appear that ice may be starting to form again. Just enough snow fell on Thursday to have to plow and sand and salt was spread on Friday. Frank met with a Representative from Cintas who offered the Town of Brownfield a new two-year contract on uniform services dropping the weekly charge from approximately \$114 to \$55. However, after some review, Cindy felt there was a clause in the contract that was not to the benefit of the Town. Erik will follow up with Cintas to try and get this wording changed.

Chief Perreault reported a quiet week with very few runs. Northeast Emergency Apparatus is currently at the Fire Department performing air pack certifications. The Department of Labor is cracking down on infractions and even the minor ones are being assessed a \$1,000 fine. This could cripple many small volunteer fire departments if they and/or the towns they cover have to come up with these fees. For example, if the DOL had walked in to inspect this equipment prior to NEA performing their certifications, our own Fire Department could have been assessed upwards of \$15,000 in fines for minor infractions. There are no more caps on fines, no grace periods and no arbitration. Many fire department officials have met with Legislators to try and get the DOL to back off from these heavy fines that can put small volunteer fire departments out of business. NEA is helping to make sure that all equipment is safe, functioning properly and meets DOL regulations. Dickie will also be contacting Safety Works to have them go over equipment because they give you six months to correct any problems before assessing fines. While on the discussion of safety, a question was raised as to whether or not safety chains need to be in front of the hoppers at the Transfer Station. Julie will check with Jim on this.

Matt Coen has met with a Representative from Chick's Lumber and has also been on the phone with Steve Sanborn regarding the doors to be replaced at the BCC. Steve got in touch with the State Fire Marshall and Building Inspector for more clarification.

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Since two different answers were given, it was deemed to go with the more strict requirements. The three single doors leading to and from the gym are not an issue. Matt suggested several options for replacing the existing double doors. After some discussion, Erik made a motion that was seconded by Cindy to replace the two sets of double 36" doors with one 48" door each and to frame in and close up the remainder of the opening. The single pane of glass by the office will be replaced with a double hung window with screen for ventilation. The Selectmen hope that the money saved on not needing the additional doors and hardware can be used to offset the additional cost of framing and insulation. This change is subject to the CEO's approval. Erik reminded Matt to let the Selectmen know if these changes fail to stay within the ballpark of the original quote and to continue to seek their approval if not. All were in agreement.

It was also noted that the glass in the BCC is insulated except in the gym, the office and the library. It was noticed that there is soot around the exhaust pipe leading away from the boiler into the chimney and there is a faint smell of diesel. Julie will check into getting the furnace and/or chimney looked at. Matt also stated that the boiler burns 6-13 gallons of oil per hour when temperatures are cold. Compared to a house that burns 6-10 gallons at the same temperature and, for the size of the building, the BCC is really not burning excessive fuel. Cindy will be looking into HUD grants for improvements at the BCC once proof of intent can be shown that the Town is putting money into this community center.

The next item discussed was a vacant piece of land that the Town foreclosed on back in March of 2008 for non payment of property taxes dating back to 2005. This subject came up when a couple of realtors called the Town Office to get information on the property because they had been approached about selling it by the previous owner. They were informed that the Town had foreclosed on the property and that the Town is the actual owner. When the previous owner was made aware of this, he contacted the Tax Collector as to how to buy the property back. The previous owner is not a Brownfield resident, nor is he a Maine resident, and his only intent is to get the property back so that he can sell it. For this reason, it is not deemed to be in the best interests of the Town to sell back the property to the previous owner for the unpaid taxes. Erik made a motion that was seconded by Cindy to have Julie contact several local realtors to request a fair market value (FMV) for the property if it was to be listed for sale. Once the FMV is obtained, the Selectmen can offer the property back to the previous owner at this price or list it with a realtor.

Linda asked for clarification of the January 19th minutes where it was discussed that Julie gave a memo to the Selectmen and that they asked to be kept updated and to have office coverage when time off was needed. Cindy informed Linda that this was a personal matter not subject to clarification. Julie offered information to the Selectmen that was not required but was appreciated in order to keep them posted.

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Since it was approaching 7:00 P.M. and the Planning Board had a meeting, the Selectmen relocated to Julie's office to finish signing paperwork. A motion was made and seconded to adjourn at 7:15 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie A. Watkins
Town Administrator

NOTICE:

- * The Budget Committee will meet on February 8th and March 8th at 6:30 P.M. at the Town Office. If needed, they will also meet on February 22nd and/or March 22nd.

SELECTMEN'S MEETING
Town of Brownfield
March 2, 2010

Selectmen Present: Carol Brooks, Erik Walker & Cindy Willets

Others Present: Matt Coen, Frank & Alvina Day & Russ Maidment

The workshop portion of the meeting was opened at 5:40 P.M. and the business portion of the meeting was called to order at 6:05 P.M. Warrants were reviewed and approved.

Town roads were posted on Monday. Brush was cut on Farnsworth Road on Monday and Tuesday in preparation for ditch work that will be performed in the spring. Some of the street signs that had been missing were replaced and a new one was installed. It started snowing on Wednesday and snowed right through Friday. Carol asked about the underground water leak at the old town garage. Frank dug up the pipe from the garage end but it wasn't leaking there so the problem was on the landowner's end next door. Next discussed was uniforms as fringe benefits to employees. Julie will get in touch with the Auditors to see how they suggest we handle this.

Chief Perreault reported the Fire Department was called along with the PW Department to assist with pumping out water at the intersection of Merrill Corner Road and Old County Road. There was a roll-over car accident on Rte. 113 with no injuries reported. There will be an all-day Hazmat training on March 20th at the Brownfield Community Center with Brownfield and Denmark confirmed.

The Administrative Budget is not ready for the Budget Committee review since the Selectmen have not had their workshop to go over it. The Selectmen will meet this coming Saturday to give their input and the Administrative Budget will be presented to the Budget Committee on March 22nd along with the Transfer Station Budget and Fire Department Budget.

A motion was made to go into Executive Session at 6:50 P.M. to discuss a legal issue. The Selectmen returned from Executive Session at 7:25 P.M. Cindy made a motion that Julie will make contact with the DHS and move forward as instructed. Carol seconded and all were in favor.

Julie will also follow up with the Realtors regarding the town-owned properties. Erik made a motion that was seconded by Carol to adjourn at 7:45 P.M. All were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie A. Watkins
Town Administrator